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DEPARTMENT OF STATE
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PORTIONS EXCISED AS INDICATED
B1(c)

GROSS MARGARET A
78 GEORGETOWN 4406

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ACTION ARA-15
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P 211258Z DEC 78
FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8526
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE GEORGETOWN 4406
E.O. 12065: NA
TAGS: CASC, OREP (RYAN, LEO) GY
SUBJ: SECRET SERVICE REQUEST TO ENTER GUYANA FOR THE PURPOSE OF INTERVIEWING JONESTOWN SURVIVORS
REF: GEORGETOWN 4282.

EXCISE

1. IN MEETING DECEMBER 20, AMBASSADOR AGAIN RAISED WITH FORMIN RASHLEIGH JACKSON THE OUTSTANDING REQUEST OF THE U.S. SECRET SERVICE TO SEND AGENTS TO GUYANA FOR THE PURPOSE OF INTERVIEWING JONESTOWN SURVIVORS [redacted] AND [redacted]. JACKSON SAID THAT MINISTER OF JUSTICE/ATTORNEY GENERAL MOHAMED SHAHABUDDEEN HAD INFORMED HIM THAT AFTER CAREFUL CONSIDERATION, GOG COULD NOT AGREE TO INTERVIEWS WITH [redacted] AND [redacted] WHILE THEY ARE UNDER DETENTION AND IN A TRIAL PROCESS. SUCH INTERVIEWS COULD PREJUDICE THE PROSECUTION'S CASE AGAINST THESE TWO DEFENDANTS IN THE OPINION OF THE MINISTER OF JUSTICE.
2. AS TO THE [redacted] AND [redacted] THE FOREIGN MINISTER HAS BEEN INFORMED BY THE POLICE THAT THESE INDIVIDUALS WILL BE FREE TO LEAVE GUYANA AS SOON AS THE CORONER'S INQUEST INTO THE JONESTOWN DEATHS NOW BEING CONDUCTED
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AT MATTHEW'S RIDGE IS COMPLETED. THAT INQUEST WHICH HAS BEEN IN PROGRESS FOR THE LAST TEN DAYS IS NOW EXPECTED TO END ON DECEMBER 21 OR 22. ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT [redacted] AND [redacted] WILL DEPART GUYANA AS SOON AS THEY ARE GIVEN PERMISSION BY THE GOG TO LEAVE, JACKSON SAID THAT HIS GOVERNMENT'S PREFERENCE REMAINS THAT THEY BE INTERROGATED ON ARRIVAL IN THE U.S.
3. COMMENT: EMBASSY WILL REMAIN IN TOUCH WITH THE GOG POLICE RE THE RELEASE OF THE [redacted] AND [redacted] AS MATERIAL WITNESSES. SHOULD IT DEVELOP THAT THEY ARE FREE TO LEAVE BUT DECIDE TO REMAIN FOR REASONS OF THEIR OWN, REQUEST FOR THE ADMISSION OF USSS AGENTS WILL BE PROMPTLY RENEWED.

EXCISE

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